

Message Text

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ORIGIN OFA-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OES-05 SS-15 L-03 H-02 NSC-05

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 COME-00 INT-05 DODE-00 IO-10

CG-00 DOTE-00 PRS-01 USIA-15 PA-02 DLOS-04 EB-07 /095 R

DRAFTED BY OES/OFA:WLSULLIVAN:MJB

APPROVED BY OES/OFA - WILLIAM L. SULLIVAN, JR.

EUR/SOV - MR. P. LYNN

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R 111327Z JUL 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

UNCLAS STATE 163228

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, ICNAF, US, UR, CA

SUBJECT: SOVIET VIOLATION ICNAF REGULATIONS

1. DAVID H. WALLACE, ASSOCIATE ADMINISTRATOR, NOAA, AND CHIEF U.S. ICNAF REPRESENTATIVE, AND WILLIAM L. SULLIVAN, JR., OES/OFA AND ALTERNATE ICNAF REPRESENTATIVE, TODAY HANDED FOLLOWING TEXT TO VICE MINISTER KAMENTSEV AND A. A. VOLKOV OF MINFISH. IN ADDITION THEY NOTED THAT THE CANADIAN ENFORCEMENT VESSEL CYGNUS HAD BOARDED OVER 20 VESSELS FROM THIS SOVIET FLEET LAST WEEK IN THE GENERAL AREA IN QUESTION. FOURTEEN OF THESE BOARDINGS TOOK PLACE IN SUB-AREA 5Y. THE LAST CATCH OF THE VESSELS CONCERNED TOTALLED APPROXIMATELY 250 TONS OF HERRING. IDENTIFICATION OF THE VESSELS AND THE POSITION OF THE BOARDINGS IN 5Y AS WELL AS THE INDIVIDUAL VESSEL CATCHES WERE PROVIDED TO KAMENTSEV AND VOLKOV.

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2. IT WAS NOT NECESSARY TO POINT OUT TO THEM THAT WHILE THE USSR HAS A QUOTA FOR HERRING IN THE ADJACENT SUB-AREA 4X, IT DOES NOT HAVE A QUOTA FOR HERRING IN 5Y. MOREOVER, BECAUSE OF THE SEVERELY DEPLETED STATE OF THE HERRING

STOCKS IN 5Y THE QUOTA FOR "OTHERS" WHICH ANY SOVIET CATCHES WOULD BE COUNTED AGAINST IS ONLY 50 TONS FOR 5Y. ACCORDINGLY, SOVIET CATCHES OF THE MAGNITUDE INDICATED

THEMSELVES CONSTITUTE A SERIOUS VIOLATION OF ICNAF REGULATIONS. SINCE THE VESSELS WERE FISHING IN THE AREA FOR SEVERAL DAYS THE TOTAL 5Y CATCH OF HERRING BY THIS SOVIET FLEET WAS UNDOUBTEDLY MUCH HIGHER THAN RECORDED BY THE CANADIAN INSPECTOR FOR THE FEW VESSELS ACTUALLY BOARDED IN 5Y.

3. KAMENTSEV IMMEDIATELY, FORCEFULLY, STATED THAT HE WOULD CABLE MFA AND MINFISH TO REPORT AND TO INSTIGATE AN IMMEDIATE INVESTIGATION SO THAT A RESPONSE COULD BE GIVEN ASAP. HE DISPATCHED VOLKOV TO THE SOVIET EMBASSY TO PREPARE SUCH A CABLE. HE MADE NO ATTEMPT TO ARGUE AGAINST THE INFORMATION PRESENTED OR TO DEFEND THE ACTIVITIES OF THE SOVIET FLEET.

4. IT WAS MENTIONED TO KAMENTSEV THAT THE GOC WOULD BE PROVIDING A MORE COMPLETE REPORT ON THE CANADIAN BOARDINGS PROBABLY TODAY.

5. BEGIN TEXT:

ON JULY 2, 1975, NMFS GLOUCESTER WAS ALERTED BY CANADIAN AUTHORITIES THAT THE U.S.S.R. HERRING PURSE SEINE FLEET WAS WORKING AT POSITION 43 DEG. 53'N, 67 DEG. 09'W, ABOUT SIX MILES WITHIN SUB-AREA 5Y. THIS FLEET CONSISTED OF 59 SEINERS AND 8 FACTORY BASE SHIPS. THE INFORMATION WAS SUBSEQUENTLY PASSED TO THE U.S. COAST GUARD, ATLANTIC AREA COMMAND AND TO LAW ENFORCEMENT, WASHINGTON, D.C.

THE COAST GUARD WAS REQUESTED TO DIRECT A PATROL VESSEL INTO THE AREA; CONSEQUENTLY, THE COAST GUARD CUTTER VIGILANT THAT HAD SAILED ON JUNE 25, WITH NMFS SPECIAL UNCLASSIFIED

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AGENT J. A. MEDEIROS ON BOARD WAS DIRECTED TO THE AREA FROM THE "NORTHEAST PEAK" OF GEORGES BANK.

ON JULY 3, 1975, AN AERIAL SURVEILLANCE FLIGHT FROM COAST GUARD, CAPE COD AIR STATION WITH NMFS, SPECIAL AGENT J. E. PITONE ON BOARD OBSERVED 52 SOVIET SEINERS AND 10 FACTORY BASE SHIPS AT 44 DEG. 00'N, 67 DEG. 00'W. A NUMBER OF THE SEINERS OBSERVED HAD THEIR SEINES ALONGSIDE CONTAINING VARYING AMOUNTS OF HERRING.

ON JULY 4, 1975, THE COAST GUARD CUTTER VIGILANT WAS ABLE TO PUT INSPECTORS ON BOARD THE FACTORY BASE SHIP ARKTIKA 6918, AT POSITION 43 DEG. 09'N, 67 DEG. 07'W. THE MASTER

STATED TO SPECIAL AGENT MEDEIROS THAT THE SOVIET HERRING FLEET CONSISTED OF 59 SEINERS AND 8 FACTORY BASE SHIPS

AND HAD BEEN IN THE VICINITY OF LATITUDE 44 DEG. 00'N, LONGITUDE 67 DEG. 00'W, FOR THE PAST THREE DAYS. THIS POSITION IS WITHIN AREA 5Y.

DURING THE INSPECTION OF THE ARKTIKA, IT WAS FOUND THAT THE HERRING FISHING WAS POOR AND THE FLEET AT THAT TIME WAS ENROUTE TO THE "NORTHEAST PEAK" OF GEORGES BANK. THE MASTER STATED HE WAS KNOWLEDGEABLE THAT THE U.S.S.R. HAD NO DIRECT HERRING QUOTA IN 5Y, AND HE FURTHER STATED THAT FISHING WAS CONDUCTED IN SUB-AREA 4. THE ARKTIKA HAD 800 METRIC TONS OF HERRING ON BOARD WHEN INSPECTED ON JULY 4. THIS SAME VESSEL WAS BOARDED ON MAY 25 AND HAD 600 METRIC TONS OF HERRING ON BOARD AT THAT TIME, 50 PERCENT OF WHICH WAS FROZEN AND 50 PERCENT SALTED.

THE U.S. FEELS STRONGLY, BASED ON OUR OBSERVATIONS AND CONTINUOUS CANADIAN SIGHTINGS, THAT THE U.S.S.R. CONDUCTED A DIRECT HERRING FISHERY IN SUB-AREA 5Y FOR THE PERIOD JUNE 30 THROUGH JULY 4, 1975. END TEXT.

6. ACCORDING TO OUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE CANADIAN INSPECTION REPORT ALL SOVIET CATCHES BY THIS FLEET WERE BEING RECORDED IN 4X REGARDLESS OF WHETHER TAKEN IN 5Y OR 4X. INGERSOLL

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